

oldentales

BARONY OF OLDENFELD • KINGDOM OF TRIMARIS

august, 2005, AS XL [2005]



GREETINGS OLDENFELD,

Glory. Word fame. Renown.

These are concepts that medieval man held dear. We too, prize the praise that The Group as a whole sees fit to give us. It is with these ideals in mind that the SCA has build an award structure to recognize the work of its members and these awards are truly the coin of our realm. They are the only way that the kingdom can hold high its people and say "Thank you for all your hard work" for all others to see.

The bestowing of awards is the right of the Crown. As much as it is a right it is a responsibility, for if the awards are to carry the intended meaning they must be earned. Only the Crown or it's appointed representatives may give awards but too often, they don't have as much time as is necessary to become familiar with all of the goings on in every corner of the Kingdom. That is where the writing of letters comes into play and we have a duty to bring to the attention of the Crown, the deeds of those around us. But (and there is always a but) it is important to remember that if the awards are to mean anything at all, they must be given with discretion, deference and respect for the intent of the award. If they are passed out like trinkets at the gate then they will mean nothing and that will rob everyone of something good in our game. To that end, it is incumbent upon each and every one of us to learn the system of awards and do our part to see those who are deserving given the glory that they have earned.

cedric

genevieve

from the seneschal

Greetings and Felicitations!

As of August 15th, Palmer-Munroe Community Center, our usual meeting place, will be undergoing renovations. We will have our August 4th meeting there as usual. For our August 11th Curia, all participants are encouraged to bring chairs or floor pillows, since the Center's chairs will not be available. Please watch *Oldentales*, www.Oldenfeld.net and the Yahoo! groups list for details on our new meeting site for August 18th through November.

Valete,

Theadora Perplexa/Tracy Haworth

850-385-2614 – seneschal@oldenfeld.net

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upcoming events:

Aug. 12-14: Squires' Revolt
(Wyvernwoode, Brandon Rotary Camp)

August 26-28: Midsummer Knight's Dream
(Marcaster, Brandon Rotary Camp)

Sept. 2-5: Trimaris XX Year Celebration
(Kingdom, Camp Ocala)

Sept 10: Sea March Anniversary
(Palm Beach Gardens Moose Lodge)

Sept 16-18: Michaelmas
(An Crosaire, FL Bible Camp)

Sept 30- Oct. 2: OLDENFELD HARVEST
(YMCA Camp Indian Springs)



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oldenfeld directory

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from the office of the historian:

twenty things i've learned while living in oldenfeld

1. Over-proof alcohol can also be used to extinguish fires.
2. "Baby Seal" can make the entire porch bounce like a basketball.
3. If you plan on doing something stupid, expect to be immortalized in puppetry.
4. When making a Burning Man, it's not advisable to wear a white tunic and dance around it, especially if the skeleton looks like a cross.
5. When you're called up in Court, and you've got a Scottish personae, expect to hear the bleating of those you've.....um....vanquished.
6. Ticks are not only the sounds that come from clocks.
7. "Dave's Back Yard" is still the place to be on the Friday nights of events.
8. Always come hungry to an Oldenfeld feast, and you'll never leave that way.
9. When Oldenfelding (*yes I've coined a new verb*), remember to bring your most comfortable dancing shoes. The dancing here is FIERCE, and the Ensemble is just FABU.
10. Nobody but nobody does schtick like the Oldenfeld Players and the Oldenfeld Little Theatre.
11. Simon Says is just plain wrong.
12. If someone ever asks you if you've ever had an "Oldenfeld Welcome", RUN.
13. The goat has more lives than a cat. We know this because it apparently is not afraid of arrow-fire.
14. The Hobbit was built on an ancient chicken burial ground, and its voodoo makes us keep coming back.
15. Ancient Vikings apparently used slacker chairs and big plastic coolers. Yep.
16. The Yule gift exchange packing list should include kneepads, an athletic cup, a helmet and band-aids.
17. Never give the Baron anything he can put in his nose or through his ears. Yes, I said THROUGH.
18. The Baroness could put most other bellydancers to shame.
19. Bachelor parties may require participants to BYOEPS (BRING YOUR OWN EYE POKING STICK).
20. We rule the world, without even trying. :o)

thl simon maurus of the argent quill

oldenfeld activities

The Barony of Oldenfeld holds business meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month. These meetings are held at 7 PM at the Palmer Monroe Community Center (1900 Jackson Bluff Road, Tallahassee). We have fighter practices (rattan, rapier and combat archery) on Sundays at 11 AM on the FSU campus Bellamy Green, between the Bellamy Building, Thagard Health Center and the old swimming pool. (Note that there is construction going on in that area of campus, so you might have to look around, but fighter practice will be in that area.) We have dance practice on Monday and Wednesday starting at 6:30 at Meyers Park near Apalachee Parkway, along with an unofficial rapier practice. On the first and third Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 PM are shop nights at Ed & Michelle Costello's home; their phone number is 878-7565. Shop night is a chance for everyone to work on projects like armor and sewing together. When there is no shop night, we have music practice (vocal and instrumental) on Tuesdays, at the home of David & Mary Stevenson (850-893-2462).

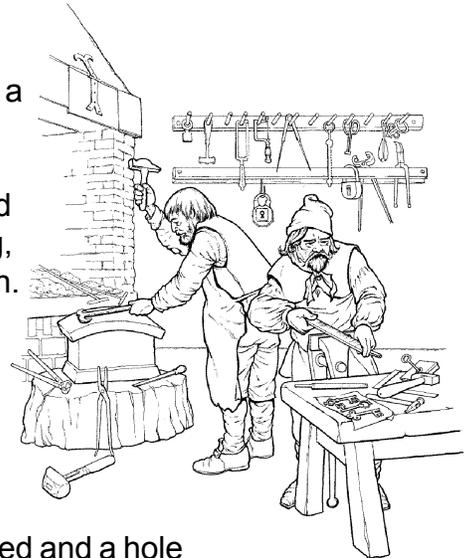


making a saxon/viking toilet kit

BY MASTER VICTOR HILDEBRAND VON KOLN

Pick: Start with a length of brass rod, 1/16 to 1/8 inch diameter and about 3 inches long. To file one end to a point, set the rod end on a solid surface, then file toward the point, rolling the rod as you do to keep an even taper. File to the amount of point desired. To remove the rough filed surface, scrape with a steel edge, such as a graver or burnisher.

Ear Spoon: Start with 1/8 inch brass rod, again about 3 inches long. Brass must be annealed before shaping to avoid cracking. Use a torch to heat one end to red and quench in water. Hammer the end flat on an anvil or smooth metal surface. Repeat annealing after every four or five hammer blows. The hammer blows should be slightly pulled toward the rest of the rod. After each annealing, rotate the rod to work the other side of the flat end to keep it even. Smooth the edge with a file, then use a small hammer, like a jeweler's hammer, to shape the bowl over a rounded surface. Alternately, form it by hammering into a small (3/16" dia.) bowl drilled into a metal block.



For the pick and ear spoon, the hanger end can be made simply by winding a loop with round-nosed pliers, or the end can be flattened and a hole punched or drilled through.

File or scrape the fire scale from any brass that had been heated

Tweezers: Start with about a 5 inch long length of 1/4 inch flat brass. Mark the center. Bend up about 1/8 to 1/4 inch of each end 45°. Bend the center around a metal rod (like the nail above), then pinch tightly around with round nosed pliers. Align and adjust the tips to fit together. Pinch the narrow with the round nose pliers, then gently bend the ends to each side to get the pinch closer. Do any final adjusting of tip alignment and spacing.

These can be mounted on a simple ring, knotted ring or braided ring of brass wire.

RETAINING FOR NOBILITY IN TWO EASY STEPS

BY LADY MORGANA FERCH RHYS AP GARETH AP LLWYLYN OF GLASTONBURY
WITH NOTES FROM BARON CEDRIC THE JUST OF DORCHESTER

Know your nobility.

Know your place.

Knowing your nobility is extremely important if you would like to become a retainer that does their job well. Not every set of nobility needs retainers all the time. Some nobility will never need a retainer, and it is best to assume that unless you are asked to do so by a chatelaine or the nobility themselves, you will not need to retain. Most obviously the Crown and Coronets will need retainers almost all the time. Royalty should never be left alone if it is preventable (barring of course the shower, the potty, and when they are sleeping). If you are retaining for someone that you do know, then you have an advantage over the average retainer.

The number one thing that a retainer will absolutely have to know is the schedule of the person for whom they are retaining. If you go into a job without the schedule, take your first reasonable opportunity to learn the schedule. Note that when the King is in war council, it is not a reasonably opportune moment. Make sure you always have a pencil and a notepad with you when you are retaining. Many King and Queens receive gifts at irregular intervals. To keep up with who gave what and when, it is imperative that the retainer keep notes. If you don't know the name of the person giving the gift, wait until they leave the Royal Presence to ask. Do not be surprised if the Queen doesn't know either. You may have to do some clandestine detective work as a retainer, and it may not always involve gift-giver's identities. The note pad will also help with any other small details the Queen may ask you to take care of. Not all of us are blessed with eidetic memories, and writing tasks down will ensure that they are taken care of in a timely manner.

A retainer's job consists mostly of taking care of the needs of the person for whom you are retaining. Perhaps the queen has an affinity for diet soda; most retainers would do well to make sure they have a supply all the time. If the king prefers a certain flavor of Gatorade and you are assigned to retain for him on the field, it would be good for you to acquire that flavor of Gatorade. The list of personal preferences will vary with the nobility for which you retain. Learn them, preferably before the event.

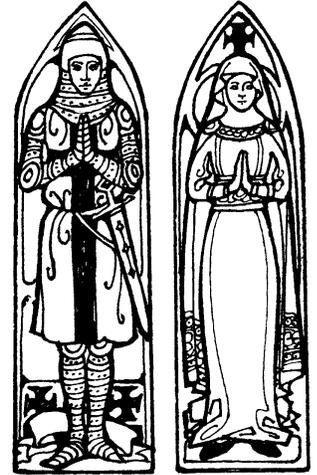
Another job for retainer is to take care of messages that need to be sent between Royalty, whether it is the King and the Prince, or two Kings from allied kingdoms. You will often find yourself as a runner. Wear good shoes, and smile, it's good exercise.

One thing any great chatelaine will know is that there are a thousand details that need to be tended to at any given event. A competent retainer will realize that the thrones need to be set up before court and will take care of it without having to be asked by the Royalty (but definitely wait for the word from the head retainer or chatelaine). Ideally these details (like knowing where the queen's veil was unpacked to) will be taken care of by the best of the retainers before the Royalty even realizes it needs to be done.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, you will be used to create an air of nobility around the people for whom you will retain. This means that you will make sure that you give adequate deference to the Crown or Coronet for which you are retaining and hopefully your impeccable grace will rub off on any who might enter the Royal Presence.

This brings us to easy step number 2: **Know YOUR place.**

Just because the Queen was your roommate in college does not mean you can treat her like your best bud at an event. After all, here, she's a queen. Remember there is a Royal Presence of 10 feet. You should not enter the Royal Presence unless you are asked to, and always bow or curtsy when you do. If you must leave the Royal Presence, do not turn your back on the Royal until you are out of the Royal presence. Bow or curtsy, back up out of the presence, and then turn. Never leave the Presence until you are dismissed by word or gesture.



A good retainer will be unnoticeable by the person for whom she retains because she is quiet, out of the way, and never speaks until she is spoken to. If you are retaining and you see something amiss, you should wait until the noble is alone (except for her retainers) to tell her that you noticed her veil was a bit crooked. Under NO circumstance should you attempt to touch or fix the person's clothing without asking first (or being asked to), and you should absolutely NEVER touch the Crown or Coronet itself unless you are handed it by the Royal person. Imagine that someone kept grabbing your clothes or kept talking incessantly to you, even your best friend.... Anyone can only handle so much, and Royals have a lot of people to handle.

Just remember, they are ROYALS, and in the average feudal society the retainers were not. They are not your equal at an event, even if you are their boss at your 9-5. It's much easier for someone to say "You don't need to say 'grace', just call me Joe" than it is for them to say "hey, I'm a prince now, you should say 'highness' from now on." The average person does not feel comfortable asking for more deference, but will often feel comfortable asking for less. Err on the side of caution and grace always and you will never be wrong.

Please remember also that as a retainer you may become privy to sensitive information about the Royal person. It is not your place to disclose any information to anyone ever. If the Royal wants something known, he or she will make it known. Even the juiciest Royal secrets should remain always secrets.

The same basic rules go for most nobility that needs to exude a noble aura. Princes and Princesses, Landed Barons and Baronesses (in their own Barony or at local Baronial events), visiting dignitaries from other kingdoms all fall into this category. It is not uncommon for a King from another Kingdom to visit a Trimarian event. Sometimes he may come without his entourage and you may be asked to retain for him. Be prepared for anything. This trading of retainers is common at multi-kingdom events as well (like Wars). Be ready. You could be asked to fill anyone's shoes.

These are merely a few guidelines. There are a thousand things you may be asked to do that are not on this list. Once, a King sent me to Hattiesburg for pizza and beer. Once, a queen asked me to hold open a port- potty door because she was afraid of the dark. That was the same queen that went to bed no earlier than 4:00am but was up and ready for a day at 7:00am sharp. I'll never forget the time it was my job to transport all the gift baskets to Pennsic (I flew to that Pennsic..... there was a PO box involved and a lot of postage.) Not to mention the times I had the privilege of carrying the beverage container as we followed the King from camp to camp. They were all a blast and I'd do them again in heartbeat. I met more interesting people and had more interesting times retaining that I have in any other job.

In the end, you should use your own judgment. If there is an emergency, deal with it as it comes with grace and courtesy and any transgression of protocol will no doubt be forgiven (and you'll know if it was not, because you won't be asked to retain again J). Weigh always the need to relay information with the need to remain silent for courtesy's sake. And don't forget, this is FUN. If it ever stops being fun, you should stop doing it. You could be at your mother-in-law's Sunday brunch.....again.

BARONIAL CURIA agenda

August 11 – Palmer Monroe Community Center



Overview of the Barony:

- a) Officers' roster including deputies
- b) Event status
- c) Financial Policy

Goals for the next year:

- a) Membership drive
- b) Event Goals
- c) Officers' and Deputies' plans

Group expectations:

- a) Where does Oldenfeld want to be in a year?
- b) What does Oldenfeld expect from Michelle and Eddie as Baron and Baroness
- c) As Baron and Baroness, What do Eddie and Michelle need from Oldenfeld to make a and b happen?

If you would like to add something to this agenda, please contact Baron Cedric at coronet@oldenfeld.net.



elizabethan IRISH GARB workshop in two parts

When: Saturday, August 13th and Saturday, August 20th Starting at 2pm.

Where: 2301 Old Bainbridge Rd, Apartment S-2001

Hostess: Etain ingen Chatahil (mka Jennifer Walker) 510-0073 or etain@scrapsoflife.com

This workshop will focus primarily on the dress of the Irish nationals during Elizabethan times, but will also include a brief trip through clothing history of the country. Session one (8/13) will take care of the basics: a garb timeline, the Irish Leine for both men and women, and an introduction to the Shinrone Gown. Construction tip sheets will be provided and for those who bring appropriate fabric, cutting will commence. Session two (8/20) will continue with construction techniques for the Shinrone Gown and will feature a dying demonstration by Honorable Lord Eoin an Eich Ghil mac Cionaodha (mka Jen Kennedy) in which we can dye our leine saffron yellow using onion skins! All who are interested are welcome, but please let the hostess know if you intend to come so we can be prepared for you.

For those interested in constructing the garments in question, the yardage needed is as follows:

Men's Leine: 4.5 yards linen, medium weight or suitable substitute, 67" width if possible.

Women's Leine: 4.5 yards linen, medium weight or suitable substitute, 60" width.

Shinrone Gown: 6-8 yards 10oz wool or suitable substitute (bottom-weight cotton twill and medium-weight linen are suitable substitutes, and the available yardage will determine how full the skirt will be), 60" width.

For all: Thread to match.

from the chronicler

"Molti Grazie!" to Baron Cedric, Master Victor, HL Simon, HL Theodora, Etain, and Lady Mordana! Without the contribution of these good gentles, there would be no Oldentales this month. They did a fabulous job contributing articles and letters so that Oldenfeld will be a more informed place.

Officers - please check out the officer listing. I pulled your e-mail addresses from our web site. If your e-mail is wrong, or if you don't want it listed, please let me know. Also, please let me know if I have all the monthly practices and get-togethers listed correctly. Finally, I do promise to start including some form of minutes from the meetings starting next month! In addition to not typing them up in time to get HL Theodora to approve them, I also ran out of room thanks to all the fabulous contributions—which, to steal a phrase from Martha Stewart, is definitely "a good thing".

Ciao,

Ginevra